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## News Release

## ICE SEEKS ENTRY-LEVEL SPECIAL AGENTS IN MIAMI

MIAMI—Recent college graduates — are you looking for a law enforcement career that offers tremendous advancement opportunities and a chance to play a prominent role in the domestic fight against terrorism? U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) urges you to attend its recruiting seminar here this month to learn more about becoming a special agent with ICE, the Department of Homeland Security's largest investigative arm.

ICE is launching a nationwide drive to recruit and hire entry-level special agents. New hires will be brought on board at the GS-5 or GS-7 level, but with yearly promotions they can expect to rise to the GS-13 level within five years. The starting salary includes an additional 25 percent annually in Law Enforcement Availability Pay (LEAP). For those hired as GS-5s in the Miami area, that amounts to a salary of more than \$35,500 a year, together with more than \$8,800 a year in LEAP. For an entry level GS-7 in Miami, the starting pay exceeds \$40,400 a year, with an additional \$10,113.25 in LEAP. Agents also receive generous benefits, including health and life insurance, a law enforcement retirement plan, holiday and sick leave, as well as tuition reimbursement.

ICE agents are involved in a wide variety of domestic and international activities stemming from the movement of people and goods that violate immigration and custom laws and threaten national security. ICE agents work cases related to human smuggling, money laundering, narcotics and weapons trafficking, financial crimes, commercial fraud, and violations relating to intellectual property rights. The agency maintains field offices across the country and around the globe.

"We need talented, well-rounded people who want to get personally involved in the effort to protect our homeland," said John Paletti, acting special agent-in-charge of ICE investigations in Miami. "These jobs have excellent benefits and advancement potential, but perhaps the greatest reward is knowing that you are doing something to help keep our nation safe."

ICE's Miami office of investigations is hosting its informational seminar this month to brief prospective applicants on the agency's mission and provide guidance on the hiring process. The session will be held Tuesday, July 12, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Prospective applicants should bring their resume to the Miami SAC office located at 8075 N.W. 53<sup>rd</sup> Street.

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To qualify for a GS-5 position, applicants must have a bachelor's degree or three years of law enforcement experience, or a combination of the two. The GS-7 level requires either one full year of graduate level education, or at least one year of specialized law enforcement experience. In addition, applicants must be under 37 years of age and pass a background investigation, medical exam, and drug test. The only way to apply is through an ICE, Office of Investigations recruiter.

## # ICE #

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.